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An Act Concerning Advanced Directives To Give Effect to a Person's End-of-life Health Care Decisions

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. Education about communicating end-of-life decisions. The Attorney General shall:

1. Develop a program to educate the public about end-of-life decisions and the steps individuals must take to have their end-of-life decisions honored by all medical personnel; and
2. Develop a program to educate the legal sector and others who prepare living wills and other advance directives about end-of-life decisions and the steps individuals must take to have their end-of-life decisions honored by all medical personnel.

Sec. 2. Honoring decisions upon transfer from facility. The Attorney General shall convene a study group of interested parties to address honoring health care decisions, including end-of-life decisions, when patients are transferred from nursing homes to hospitals.

SUMMARY

This bill directs the Attorney General to develop 2 education programs. The first education program is directed at educating the public about the steps necessary to have their end-of-life decisions honored by medical personnel. The 2nd education program is aimed at the legal community and others who prepare or help individuals complete living wills and other advance health care directives.

This bill directs the Attorney General to convene a study group of interested parties to ensure patients' end-of-life decisions are honored when patients are transferred from a nursing home to a hospital.